



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 399

February Session, 2008

* SB00399CE 031308 *

AN ACT CONCERNING REGULATORY RELIEF FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) For purposes of this section,
2 "small business" means a business entity, including its affiliates, that
3 (1) is independently owned and operated, and (2) employs fewer than
4 fifty full-time employees or has gross annual sales of less than five
5 million dollars, provided that the task force established in subsection
6 (b) of this section, in undertaking the study required pursuant to this
7 section, may define "small business" to include a greater number of
8 full-time employees if necessary to meet the needs and address specific
9 problems of small businesses.

10 (b) There is established a task force to study ways to provide
11 regulatory relief for small businesses. Such study shall include, but not
12 be limited to, (1) a review of current state-imposed record-keeping,
13 reporting and other requirements, the cost of such requirements to
14 small businesses and ways in which such requirements may be
15 eliminated or streamlined, (2) consideration of the treatment of small
16 businesses in the regulation-making process and of the effect of
17 regulatory requirements on small businesses, (3) a review of the state's
18 business tax system, and (4) recommendations for conducting a cost-
19 benefit analysis of the regulatory environment.

20 (c) The task force shall consist of the following members:

21 (1) Two representatives of a state-wide business group, appointed
22 by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

23 (2) Two persons who currently or in the past have owned or
24 managed a small business, appointed by the president pro tempore of
25 the Senate;

26 (3) One representative of a state-wide labor group, appointed by the
27 majority leader of the House of Representatives;

28 (4) One representative of a state-wide consumer group, appointed
29 by the majority leader of the Senate;

30 (5) One person with expertise in the economic development
31 potential of small businesses, appointed by the minority leader of the
32 House of Representatives;

33 (6) One representative of a state-wide local government group,
34 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

35 (7) Two persons who currently or in the past have owned or
36 managed a small business, appointed by the Governor;

37 (8) The Commissioners of Economic and Community Development,
38 Revenue Services and Environmental Protection, or said
39 commissioners' designees;

40 (9) The chairpersons, cochairpersons and ranking members of the
41 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance
42 of matters relating to commerce, or their designees; and

43 (10) The Business Advocate, created pursuant to section 32-725 of
44 the general statutes.

45 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than
46 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be

47 filled by the appointing authority.

48 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
 49 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force
 50 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall
 51 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not
 52 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

53 (f) Not later than January 1, 2009, the task force shall submit an
 54 interim report on its findings and recommendations to date to the joint
 55 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 56 matters relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of
 57 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

58 (g) Not later than January 1, 2010, the task force shall submit a
 59 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
 60 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
 61 relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-
 62 4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date
 63 that it submits such report or January 1, 2010, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

CE *Joint Favorable Subst.*